

SENATOR CHAMBERS: That's all right. Okay, let me...and I agree. I am getting so I can read your mind even though I don't dress like you. I'd like to ask...oh, Senator Withem, here's...

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Withem.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I won't ask it as a question, I am going to state it. This bill with this provision aims to make the electoral college a rubber stamp. That is not its role and function under the U.S. Constitution. The reason I didn't wait for Senator Withem to come back to his seat because he agreed to that in the beginning. He knows, and anybody who has read the constitution and the history of it will know that the electoral college is not bound to follow the popular vote. It is not required to do so. As a matter of fact, there is a provision in the constitution telling how a president and vice president will be elected should the electoral college, based on its voting, be unable to give the required majority necessary to elect a president. There is nothing in the U.S. Constitution that says that whole process will be thrown into a court and a court will cast the votes of those electors in the way they should have been cast in order to have a president. The constitution envisions, by its term, a situation where election for president and vice president can be thrown into Congress. That's already in the constitution. This, that you are putting into this law, cannot convert the electoral college from what it...

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...is into something that is closer to the desire of the heart of the majority of the members of this Legislature. I am going to vote to send it on because that seems to be what the understanding was this morning, and since it is one of those bills that I am going to vote against anyway, it doesn't...I can't vote against it any more under these circumstance than I could if it didn't have the provision. But with this provision, it offers the possibility that the whole question can be opened up and reviewed. And if a provision violates the U.S. Constitution, it will stand until somebody challenges it. So if the challenge had not been made, the mere fact that the challenge had not been made does not mean it cannot be made, nor will the fact that the challenge hadn't been made at an early date mean that it loses its validity. This is a bill with which I disagree and for which I will not vote.